



BOX IF
Expedited Procedure
Group No. 2824
501.34214R00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: T. TAKAHASHI, et al.
Application No.: 09/974,962
Filed: October 12, 2001
For: SEMICONDUCTOR MEMORY
Art Unit: 2824
Examiner: V. T. Nguyen

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.97 & 1.98

Mail Stop IF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

May 27, 2004

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith copies of the documents listed in the attached form PTO/SB/08A for the Examiner's consideration.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the mailing date of a final action but before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by the following certification specified in 37 CFR '1.97(e)

On information and belief, I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement

To the extent the documents listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08A are not in the English language, the requirement of 37 CFR '1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by the following remarks.

The attached listed Japanese documents have all been cited in an Office Action from the Japanese Patent Office dated March 30, 2004. In the Office Action, the Examiner has referred to Fig. 4 of JP 05-054634 and Figs. 8-12 of JP 06-318391 as examples of combining a separated word line structure with a separated bit line structure. It is noted that JP 06-318391 is related to U.S. Patent 5,404,338.

In the Japanese Office Action, the Japanese Examiner referred to Fig. 1 of JP 05-226613 and Figs. 1 and 2 of JP 06-196656 as examples of a separated word line structure in which a plurality of sub word lines are connected to one main word line. It is also noted that JP 06-196656 is related to U.S. Patent 5,416,660.

With regard to JP 03-154287, the Examiner noted that Figs. 1, 2, 4 and 7 represent examples of separated IO line structure, in which a plurality of sub bit lines are connected to a common main IO line. Similarly, the Japanese Examiner noted that Fig. 15 is also an example of a separated IO line structure in which a plurality of sub bit lines are connected to a common main IO line.

Finally, the Japanese Examiner also noted that Fig. 3(a)-(d) of JP 02-246089 and Figs. 1-4 of JP 02-018784 are examples of a method of supplying first and second voltages to a sense amplifier.

It is also noted that JP 03-154287 is related to U.S. Patent 5,734,619 while JP 02-246089 is related to U.S. Patent 5,262,999.

It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be considered by the Examiner.

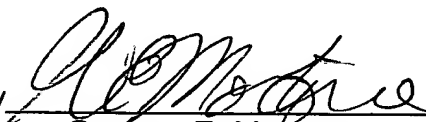
Application No.: 09/974,962

Docket No.: 501.34214R00

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Docket No. 501.34214R00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

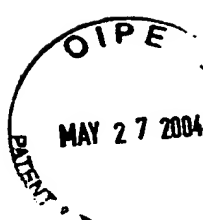
Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

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PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	09/974,962
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Filing Date	October 12, 2001
		First Named Inventor	T. TAKAHASHI, et al.
		Art Unit	2824
		Examiner Name	V. T. Nguyen
(use as many sheets as necessary)		Attorney Docket Number	501.34214R00
Sheet	1	of	1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)				
		5,404,338		04-04-1995	Murai et al	
		5,414,660		05-09-1995	Sugibavashi et al	
		5,734,619		03-31-1998	Numata et al	
		5,262,999		11-16-1993	Etoh et al	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ <i>(if known)</i>				
		JP 6-196656	07-15-1994			
		JP 5-226613	09-03-1993			
		JP 5-54634	03-05-1993			
		JP 3-154287	07-02-1991			
		JP 2-246089	10-01-1990			
		JP 2-143982	06-06-1990			
		JP 2-18784	01-23-1990			
		JP 6-318391	11-15-1994			

OTHER PRIOR ART—NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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